outstanding dues, the percentage of such dues to sales has come down from 21% in 1989-90 to 19% in 1990-91 and 17% in 1991-92. To improve the profitability, Indian Airlines has taken several other steps, such as improved utilisation of A-320 fleet, savings in administrative expenses, control on recruitment of staff, pre-flight checks to avoid wastage on food upliftment on board, etc. The net loss sustained by Indian Airlines during the last three years is as follows :—

1989-90—(Rs. 15.24 crores).

1990-91—(Rs. 64.59 crores).

1991-92—(Rs. 211.55 crores estimated).

Valuation of ITDC Assets

660. PROF. SAURIN BHATTACHARYA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have worked out the principles to be followed to determine the actual cost of shares of the ITDC hotels in the context of present valuation of assets as per market rate before actual consideration of disinvestment process ;

(b) whether Government have engaged any professionals for the purpose ;

(c) whether some offers have also been received from the foreign hotel companies/firms/NRIs organisations; and

(d) if so, the facts and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA) : (a) The disinvestment of shares of India Tourism Development Corporation is not at present under consideration of the Government and therefore the question of determining its actual value of shares does not arise.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir. Government has not received offers for determining the actual cost of shares of ITDC.

(d) Does not arise.

Decanalising the Import of Fertilizers

@661. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to decanalise import of fertilizers ; and

(b) if so, what are the details of the scheme and the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) There is no proposal, at present, under Government consideration to docanalise impore of finished fertilizers.

(b) Does not arise.

Trouble of leather goods exporters

662. SHRI P. UPENDRA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) wheter exporters of leather goods are in serious trouble due to the lop-sided policies of the Government ;

(b) whether it is a fact that a large number of units have been closed down ; and

(c) what steps Government are taking to help the revival of these units and augment exports ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM) : (a) No, Sir, the Government policy in the leather sector has consistently been to progressively discourage the export of raw-materials and substitute it with Value-added leather products.

(b) Government has no information on the closure of a large number of units.

(c) Does not arise.

@Previously Unstarred Question 365 transferred from the 30th April, 1992.